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[10191/4504]

CONTROL UNIT

Field of the Invention

The invention is generally directed to a control unit having an oscillator for a processor ( $\mu$ C).

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention provides a control unit having an oscillator for a processor ( $\mu$ C), the control unit being configured so that the control unit stores a temporary absence of oscillation of the oscillator in a first error memory (15), if oscillation begins again after the absence.

- 10 The control unit according to the invention has the advantage that when temporary interruptions occur in the oscillations of an oscillator for a processor in a control unit, these interruptions, which may occur for example due to temperature dependencies or shunt resistances in the oscillator circuit,
- 15 are stored in an error memory. In particular, this avoids unnecessary visits to the repair shop which a customer would have made in response to a brief illumination of the warning lamp, the shop then not being able to determine why the warning lamp was activated.
- 20 The control unit according to the present invention makes it possible to write this error to a permanent error memory of the control unit. This improves the possibilities for servicing control units, in particular in the case of airbag triggering devices. Oscillators which are temporarily not
- 25 oscillating are identified, and these errors are stored in the memory.

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